THE 1981-82 MANITOBA SCHOOLS CAREERS SYMPOSIUM:

AN EVALUATION

Prepared by:
Larry K. Bremner
Daniel G. Haughey
Research Branch
May 1982

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors of this report, L.K. Bremner and D.G. Haughey, extend their gratitude to the numerous people involved in all facets of this evaluation. Specifically, this includes the school personnel, students, and presenters who completed questionnaires. Their co-operation and support allowed for the successful completion of this study.

Also, appreciation is extended to the members of the Manitoba Schools Careers Symposium Steering Committee, especially Ms. Maxine Slota and Mr. Tom Prins who provided information and assistance during the course of this evaluation.

Appreciation is extended to members of the Research Branch who assisted in coding and data analysis and provided editorial comments. The authors are grateful for the patience and support of V. Mundle and J. Moorhead who typed the numerous drafts.

M.P. Yakimishyn
Director of Research

ABSTRACT

The Careers Symposium was conceived in 1980 by the School Counsellor's Association of Manitoba (SCAM), as a means of helping high school students make career-related decisions. The 1981-82 Symposium was held February 1st and 2nd in the Winnipeg Convention Centre, and approximately 16,000 students from across the province participated. The Research Branch, at the request of the Program Development Directorate, Department of Education, conducted a third party evaluation.

Factors that might warrant consideration in planning future Symposiums were:

- Overcrowding was raised as an issue by participating students and school personnel. Alternatives such as changing the physical facilities, scheduling schools more rigidly, or reducing the grades invited might be considered. Deletion of Grade 12 students from the Symposium should be explored given the effects the students attributed to the event.

- Time of the year generally did not appear to be a problem. However, semester change and/or breaks within the time period should be considered when setting future Symposium dates.

- Distance and the cost of transportation were a concern to rural schools who did not participate. A second location, (ie. Brandon) might alleviate this as well as the overcrowding problem.

CONCLUSIONS

Overall, it was concluded that the stated objectives were met. However, the extent to which each objective was attained varied.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
	Acknowledgements	i
	Abstract	ii
	Table of Contents	iii
	List of Tables	iv
I.	Background	1
II.	Summary of Findings	1
	A. Operational Definitions	1
	B. Limitations	2
	C. Highlights	2
	D. Future Considerations	4
III.	Results and Observations	5
	Section I - School Personnel Attitudes Regarding the Symposium	6
	Part I - Participating Schools	6
	A. Methodology	6
	B. Results and Discussion of Findings	7
	Part II - Non-Participating Schools	11
	A. Methodology	11
	B. Results and Discussion of Findings	12
	Section II - Students' Attitudes Regarding the Symposium Process	16
	A. Objectives	16
	B. Methodology	16
	C. Results and Discussion of Findings	17
	Section III - Presenters' Attitudes Towards the Symposium	34
	A. Objective	34
	B. Operational Definition	34
	C. Methodology	34
	D. Results and Discussion of Findings	35

Appendices

Appendix A
Appendix B
Appendix C
Appendix D

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Title	Page
Section 1		
1.1	Response Rate	7
1.2	Response Rate for Nonparticipating School Questionnaire	11
1.3	Reasons for Nonparticipation	12
1.4	Activities to Assist Students with Career Planning.	14
Section II		
2.1	Response Rate	17
2.2	Whether Students Attending the Symposium Had a Career Choice Prior to In-School Preparation By Whether They Presently Have a Choice	18
2.3	Students Having a Career Choice Before In-School Preparation, By Whether They Have the Same Choice Now By Sex	18
2.4	Whether Information Received at the Convention Centre Caused Students to Reconsider Their Career Choice By Their Geographic Location	18
2.5	Whether Students Reconsidered Their Career Choice By the Level of the Majority of Their Courses . . .	19
2.6	Student Interest in Career Planning Because of Preparation and/or Symposium , By Their Geographic Location	19
2.7	Student Interest in Career Planning By the Level of the Majority of Their Courses	19
2.8	Whether Students Considered a Possible Career For Themselves Because of In-School Preparation By Their Geographic Location	21
2.9	Whether Students Considered a Possible Career For Themselves Because of Preparation By the Level of the Majority of Their Courses	21
2.10	Whether In-School Preparation Helped Students Understand the Process of Career Planning By Their Geographic Location	21
2.11	Whether In-School Preparation Helped Students Understand the Process of Career Planning By the Level of the Majority of Their Courses	23
2.12	Whether Information Received at Convention Centre Helped Students Understand Career Planning Process By Their Geographic Location	23

Table	Title	Page
2.13	Whether Information Presented at the Convention Centre Helped Students Understand the Career Planning Process, By the Level of the Majority of Their Courses	23
2.14	Whether the In-School Preparation Introduced Students To a Possible Career They Were Not Previously Aware, of By Their Geographic Location .	25
2.15	Whether the In-School Preparation Introduced Students To a Possible Career They Were Not Aware of Previously By the Level of the Majority of Their Courses	25
2.16	Whether the Information Presented at the Convention Centre Introduced Students to a Possible Career They Were Not Previously Aware of By Their Geographic Location	25
2.17	Whether the Information Presented at the Convention Centre Introduced Students to a Possible Career They Were Not Previously Aware of By the Level of the Majority of Their Courses	26
2.18	Whether Students Considered a Possible Career Because of Information Received at the Convention Centre By Their Geographic Location	26
2.19	Whether Students Considered a Possible Career Because of Information Received at the Convention Centre By the Level of the Majority of Their Courses	26
2.20	What Gave Students Information That Caused the Consideration of a New Career By Their Geographic Location	28
2.21	What Gave Students Information That Caused the Consideration of a New Career By the Level of the Majority of Their Courses	28
2.22	Those Students Attending the Symposium By Their Geographic Location	29
2.23	Whether Students Went Through a Preparation Exercise By Their Geographic Location	29
2.24	Whether Students Went Through a Preparation Exercise By the Level of the Majority of Their Courses . . .	29
2.25	Whether Information Recieved at the Convention Centre Applied to Students' Specific Areas of Interest By Their Geographic Location	32
2.26	Whether Information Received at the Convention Centre Applied to Students' Specific Areas of Interest By The Level of the Majority of Their Geographic Location	32

Table	Title	Page
2.27	Length of Time Students Were at Convention Centre By Their Geographic Location	32
Section III		
3.1	Response Rate For Presenter Survey	34
3.2	Reasons For Participating in Symposium	35
3.3	Satisfaction With Various Aspects of the Symposium	37

I. BACKGROUND

The Careers Symposium was conceived in 1980 by the School Counsellor's Association of Manitoba (SCAM), as a means of helping high school students make career-related decisions. The 1981-82 Symposium was held February 1st and 2nd in the Winnipeg Convention Centre, and approximately 16,000 students from across the province participated. The Research Branch, at the request of the Program Development Directorate, Department of Education, conducted a third party evaluation to ascertain the effectiveness of the Symposium process in meeting its objectives as stated by SCAM.[1]

The specific research objectives of this study were:

1. To determine students' attitudes regarding the Symposium process as to whether:
   - (i) it has stimulated their interest in educational and career planning,
   - (ii) it has assisted in their understanding of the process of career planning,
   - (iii) it has provided them with exposure to career and educational alternatives,
   - (iv) it has made specific education and career information available.
2. To determine the attitudes of school personnel regarding various aspects of the Symposium process; and,
3. To determine the attitudes of participating speakers and booth sponsors regarding various aspects of the Symposium process.

For purposes of clarity, the objectives and methodological considerations will be presented separately at the beginning of each of the sections.

II. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A. Operational Definitions

For the purpose of this report the following definitions will apply.

Participating Schools - refers to those schools participating in the 1981-82 Careers Symposium.

Non-Participating Schools - refers to those schools not participating in the 1981-82 Careers Symposium.

---

[1] These may be found in the 1982 Student Preparation Package.

Grade Level - refers to the level of the majority of the students' courses.

Symposium Process - refers to combination of the in-school preparation and the information presented at the Convention Centre.

Presenters - refers to individuals or organizations who participated in the Symposium by supplying a booth and/or speaker.

B. Limitations

The following limitations apply to this report:

1. The names of the individual students participating in the Careers Symposium were not available to the Research Branch. As such, it was necessary to bulk mail questionnaires to the participating schools for distribution. Therefore, those students who completed questionnaires may not be representative of the total participating student population.

2. The basis for all samples selected in this study was the Careers Symposium Administrative data. The representativeness of the samples was dependent on the accuracy of the administrative data.

C. Highlights

Section I - School Personnel

Participating Schools (21 schools)

- All participating schools saw the Symposium as a valuable means of presenting career information to students.

- Crowded conditions and their resulting effects were most often mentioned by school personnel as a negative feature of the Symposium.

- Overall, the most popular months for future Symposiums to be held were January/February; 70% of respondents thought Symposiums should be held in Winnipeg.

- In 50% of the schools not having a career day, the Symposium had replaced that activity.

Nonparticipating Schools (34 schools)

- Schools that did not participate most often attributed this to a "conflict with the school schedule." The second most frequent reason given was the "distance and transportation cost."

- All nonparticipating schools indicated that some form of activity was available in their school to assist students in making career choices.

- Nonparticipating schools indicated that "more locations" and a "different time of year" would increase the likelihood of their participation.

Section II - Students (23 schools and 1,223 attending students)

- Information presented through the Symposium process did not result in changes in over 80% of the students' reported career choices.

- Approximately 45% of students indicated that the Symposium process had helped them understand the career planning process. In comparison 20% of students indicated that it had not helped and 35% were unsure.

- Grade 11 students were most likely to reconsider their career choice and report increased interest in career planning.

- Grade 12 students were the least likely group to perceive benefits arising out of the Symposium process.

- The majority of students did not perceive the information presented during the Symposium process as introducing them to new careers.

- The majority of students did receive information related to their specific areas of interest.

- Four hundred and eighty students mentioned the crowded nature as the worst feature of the Symposium. Students most often suggested that fewer people would improve future Symposiums.

- Over 80% of the students indicated a degree of satisfaction with the Career Symposium.

- Students most often indicated they would prefer to have the Symposium held in the months of September/October. Their second choice was January/February.

Section III - Presenters (99 respondents)

- Presenters most often indicated that they participated to "provide information about their area to students."

- Presenters most often (51%) reported having a booth. A combination of a booth and speaker was the second most reported type of involvement. Providing a speaker was the least popular option.

- Presenters who expressed some dissatisfaction with the Symposium most often cited that lack of "preparation by students" or "lack of questions from students" as their source of irritation.

CONCLUSIONS

Overall, it can be concluded that the stated objectives were met. However, the extent to which each objective was attained varied.

D. Future Considerations

- Overcrowding was raised as an issue by participating students and school personnel. Alternatives such as changing the physical facilities, scheduling schools more rigidly, or reducing the grades invited might be considered. Deletion of Grade 12 students from the Symposium should be explored given the effects the students attributed to the event.

- Time of the year generally did not appear to be a problem. However, semester change and/or breaks within the time period should be considered when setting future Symposium dates.

- Distance and the cost of transportation were a concern to rural schools who did not participate. A second location, (ie. Brandon) might alleviate this as well as the overcrowding problem.

1II. RESULTS AND OBSERVATIONS

SECTION 1

SCHOOL PERSONNEL ATTITUDES REGARDING THE SYMPOSIUM

A. OBJECTIVES

The research objective of this section is:

- to determine the attitudes of school personnel regarding various aspects of the Symposium process.

In order to address this objective, this section will be presented in two parts; those schools that participated, and those schools that did not.

B. LIMITATIONS

(i) The number of northern respondents was small. As such, conclusions made, and inferences drawn, should be limited to the respondents themselves and not generalized to the northern population as a whole.

(ii) The basis for all samples in this study was the Career Symposium Administrative data. The representativeness of the samples was dependent on the accuracy of the administrative data.

C. OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS

1. Geographic Location - For purposes of this study, urban schools are in school divisions one through 10 plus 12, rural include divisions 14 through 47, excluding 45, and, north includes divisions 45, 48 and remote districts.

2. Symposium Process - Refers to a combination of the in-school preparation and the information presented at the Convention Centre.

PART I - Participating Schools

A. METHODOLOGY

1. Sample Selection/Field Methods

A 20% systematic sample, with a random start, was drawn from the 140 participating schools. This procedure resulted in a sample of 27 participating schools in 23 divisions. A questionnaire, designed by members of the Research Branch, was mailed to the principal in each of the selected schools. This questionnaire was to be completed by the principal and/or their Symposium contact person. This procedure resulted in an overall response rate of 85% or a 78% response rate for participating schools (Table 1:1).

TABLE 1.1

RESPONSE RATE

	Projected Sample	Actual Sample	Response Rate
Schools	27	23*	85%

*Two schools mailed back the questionnaire but had not participated in the Symposium.

B. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

What Are the Attitudes of Participating School Personnel Regarding Various Aspects of the Symposium Process?

1. Expectations

As one might expect, reasons offered by school personnel for their participation in the Symposium most frequently dealt with "career exploration, awareness, information" (Question 1*). When asked if the Symposium had met their expectations, the majority of the respondents indicated that it had (Question 2). However, the degree of satisfaction varied by the respondent's geographic location. While approximately 80% of the urban and 100% of the northern respondents indicated it had met their expectations, 60% of the rural schools had a similar response. The reasons rural schools most often gave for their unmet expectations were the crowded conditions and the fact students were not able to talk with all the people who they were interested in.

2. In-School Activities

Urban schools were the least likely to take their students through preparation exercises (Question 3). However, Moving on to a Career was the most frequently used preparation method for those who did (Question 4). This should have been expected, given that

*Questions referred to in the text may be found in Appendix A.

Moving on to a Career was part of the preparation kit mailed to the participating schools.

There appeared to be satisfaction with the preparation method used by all, except two rural schools (Question 4). Furthermore, all schools saw the preparation exercises as being either "important" or "very important" in preparing students for the Symposium (Question 5). When asked to rate the value of the preparation for presenting career information, all except one rural school perceived it as being either "important" or "very important" (Question 6).

Five of the respondents from the schools surveyed indicated that their schools did have a career day (Question 14). It was noted that the urban schools were the least likely to have a school career day. For those not having a career day, approximately 50% indicated that the Careers Symposium had taken its place.

Urban schools were found to be the most likely to have undertaken follow-up with students since the Symposium (Question 7). This follow-up most often consisted of informal discussions with the students.

3. Symposium Career Information

Respondents indicated that Grade 12 students would benefit most from the information presented at the Symposium (Question 8). One school saw the information as benefitting students in Grade 10.

All schools perceived the Career Symposium as a "valuable" or "very valuable" means of presenting career information to students (Question 9). The "value" to urban schools most often took the form of the personal contact the Symposium allowed the students to have with people in various careers. In comparison, rural schools throught the "value" of the Symposium was all the career information available under one roof.

One rural and one northern school were dissatisfied with the quality of information at the booths, whereas all of the urban respondents expressed satisfaction (Question 12). Again, the rural school mentioned crowds as a reason for their dissatisfaction. Although the majority of respondents were satisfied with the quality of information given by the presenters/speakers, five schools expressed their dissatisfaction (Question 13).

4. Symposium Features

When asked what they felt were the best features of the Symposium, personnel from 13 schools mentioned the range of occupations represented by booths (Question 19). In contrast, 12 respondents indicated the "crowds/lack of space" as being the Symposium's worst feature (Question 18). This was the most common concern, regardless of the geographic location of the school. In fact, this concern was substantiated when school personnel were asked if there were changes they would make to the next Symposium (Question 15). Thirteen of the 21 respondents indicated they would like changes, the most common change being "limit the number of students at any one time/need more space."

5. Future Symposiums

The majority of the personnel indicated that the Career Symposium should be held "once a year" (Question 10). The most popular months as indicated by the respondents were "January/February" (Question 20). At least 70% of all respondents, regardless of geographic location, indicated that they felt the Symposium should be held in Winnipeg (Question 11). The other replies suggested a combination of Winnipeg and other centres.

All but two rural schools would send their students to the Careers Symposium again (Question 16). A person in one of the rural schools said he/she would attend future Symposiums if they were not held in

Winnipeg again. Another rural respondents mentioned they would not attend if the same conditions of overcrowding still existed. The high degree of satisfaction with the Symposium is reflected in the fact that all the people replying to the questionnaire, except one from a rural school, would recommend the Careers Symposium to their colleagues (Question 17).

6. In Summary

There appears to be a high degree of satisfaction among participating schools with the Career Symposium. Twenty-five percent of the respondents expressed a negative reaction regarding the quality of information given by the presenters/speakers. It was also noted, that in 50% of those schools not having a career day, the Symposium had replaced this activity. One theme that appears throughout the responses was the participants concern with the overcrowded nature of the Convention Centre. However, given the participants responses one can conclude that, in general, they have positive attitudes "regarding various aspects of the Symposium process."

PART II - NONPARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

A. METHODOLOGY

1. Questionnaire Design

A survey instrument was designed by members of the Research Branch, for completion by school officials (principals and/or guidance counsellors. Items in the questionnaire reflected the previously stated objective and paralleled those found in the questionnaire which had been designed for officials from schools that participated in the event.

2. Sample Selection/Field Methods

A sample of schools was drawn from a list of schools in Manitoba which offered a program to students enrolled in a grade between 9 and 12. Those schools that had participated in the Symposium were deleted. The sample was drawn so as to provide for regional representation. A sample of 45 schools resulted. A questionnaire was mailed to the principal of each school selected for the sample. Questionnaires were returned by 36 schools.

TABLE 1.2

RESPONSE RATE FOR NONPARTICIPATING SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaires Sent (N)	Returned (N)	Response Rate (%)
45	36*	80%

*Two questionnaires could not be used as the schools had participated in the Symposium.

B. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

1. Reasons for Nonparticipation

The reason most often reported for not participating in the Symposium was "conflict with school schedule". The second most often reported reason was "distance and transportation cost". As one might expect, urban schools most often reported a schedule conflict as their reason for not attending while non-urban (rural and northern) schools most often reported the problem of distance and transportation expense (Table 1:3). It should be noted that in all cases schools reported that they had received information about the Symposium (Question 1).* Therefore, this was not a reason for non-participation.

TABLE 1.3

REASONS FOR NONPARTICIPATION

	Urban		Non-Urban		Total	
	(N)	Rank	(N)	Rank	(N)	Rank
Conflict with school schedule	13	1	4	3	17	1
Distance/transportation expense	0	-	13	1	13	2
Run our own program	6	2	3	4	9	3
Needed more time to plan	1	3	5	2	6	4
Other**	1	3	4	3	5	5

**Other includes "time away from classes", "lack of interest", and "not proper level for Grade 9's".

Non-urban schools indicated that "more time was needed for planning" as their second most often reported reason for non-participation. This may be accounted for by the need of non-urban schools to make arrangements for transportation in order to participate.

*All questions referred to in the text may be found in Appendix B.

2. Previous Participation

Overall, 24% of those responding indicated that they had participated in a previous Symposium (Question 3). Of this group, one-half indicated that they were not satisfied with the previous Symposium. The two main reasons given for the dissatisfaction were a failure to receive the required materials and the distance and associated transportation cost. Non-urban schools most often cited the distance and transportation cost as a reason for their dissatisfaction.

3. Local Activities

Respondents were asked if their school had activities or programs to assist students in planning their careers. All responded in the affirmative (Question 4). When asked to describe the activities, school personnel most often reported that the activities included "career days or speakers" followed by "a course on careers" or "guidance classes." When the responses were broken down by urban and non-urban the pattern changed (Table 1:4). Urban schools most often reported their activities included "Choices" followed by "Career Days/Speakers" and a "course on careers/guidance classes." Non-urban schools most often reported "Career Days/Speakers" followed by "Career Resource Centre" and "Individual Counselling."

TABLE 1.4

ACTIVITIES TO ASSIST STUDENTS WITH CAREER PLANNING

Activity	Urban (N)	Urban Rank	Non-Urban (N)	Non-Urban Rank	Total (N)	Total Rank
Career Days/Speakers	7	2	12	1	19	1
Course on Careers/Guidance Classes	7	2	6	4	13	2
Choices	8	1	2	5	10	4
Career Information Centre	4	3	8	2	12	3
Individual Counselling	1	4	7	3	8	5

4. Future Participation

Overall, 74% of those responding indicated that their school would participate in a future Symposium (Question 5). Non-urban schools accounted for eight of the nine responses that were negative or "not sure". The pattern of responses remained much the same when schools were asked to indicate if they would be more likely to participate if changes were made (Question 6). The most often changes desired were "more locations" and "different time of year". However, approximately 75% expressed an interest in participating with or without changes (Questions 5 and 6). Respondents were asked to indicate in what town or city the Symposium should be located in the future (Question 7). Most often (21) school personnel indicated "Winnipeg" followed by "Brandon" (11).

IN SUMMARY

Non-urban schools tended to stress the "distance and cost factors" as a reason for nonparticipation while suggesting alternate locations in the future.

Urban schools that did not participate most often cited the "conflict with the school schedule" as the reason and suggested an "alternate time of the year" for future Symposium. However, approximately 75% of the non-participants would be interested in participating in future Symposiums.

SECTION II

STUDENTS' ATTITUDES REGARDING THE SYMPOSIUM PROCESS

A. OBJECTIVES

The research objectives upon which this section focuses are:

To determine students' attitudes regarding the Symposium process as to whether;

(i) It has stimulated their interest in educational and career planning,

(ii) it has assisted in their understanding of the process of career planning,

(iii) it has provided them with exposure to career and educational alternatives, and,

(iv) it has made specific education and career information available.

B. METHODOLOGY

1. Limitations

The reader should be aware of the following limitations when reading this section:

(i) The names of the individual students participating in the Careers Symposium were not available to the Research Branch. As such, it was necessary to bulk mail questionnaires to the participating schools for distribution. This resulted in approximately 1,200 out of a potential 4,000 students, as indicated by the administrative data, completing questionnaires. As such the sample may not be representative of the total participating student population.

(ii) The basis for all samples selected in this study was the Careers Symposium Administrative data. The representativeness of the samples was dependent on the accuracy of the administrative data.

2. Sample Selection/Field Methods

The participating school population consisted of approximately 140 public schools. A 20% systematic sample with a random start was drawn and resulted in a sample of 27 participating schools in 23 divisions. The administrative data indicated that approximately 4,000 students from these schools had participated in the Symposium. Questionnaires, which were designed by members of the Research Branch, were bulk mailed to the principals of the selected schools for distribution to the participating students. The principals were asked to return the completed questionnaires

to the Research Branch for analysis. This procedure resulted in an overall response rate of 89% or an 85% response rate for participating schools (Table 2:1).

TABLE 2:1

RESPONSE RATE

	Projected Sample	Actual Sample	Response Rate
Schools	27	24*	89%

*One school mailed back the questionnaire but had not participated in the Symposium.

3. Operational Definitions

1. Grade Level - refers to the level of the majority of the students' courses.

2. Symposium Process - refers to combination of the in-school preparation and the information presented at the Convention Centre.

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

(i) Has the Symposium Stimulated Student Interest in Educational and Career Planning?

1. Career Choice

Approximately 80% of the students who reported that they did not have a career choice prior to preparation, still did not have a career choice at the time of the survey (Table 2.2). For those students who had a career choice before the Symposium preparation, approximately 80% indicated they still had that same choice (Table 2:3). It was noted that females were more likely to reveal a change in their career choice.

Regardless of the geographic location, approximately two-thirds of the students indicated that the information they received at the Convention Centre did not cause them to reconsider their career choice, (Table 2:4). However, variations appeared according to grade level of the student (Table 2:5). Students with the majority of their courses at

TABLE 2:2

WHETHER STUDENTS ATTENDING THE SYMPOSIUM
HAD A CAREER CHOICE PRIOR TO IN SCHOOL PREPARATION
BY WHETHER THEY PRESENTLY HAVE A CHOICE

Choice Prior to Preparation	Present Choice	
	No	Yes
No	82%	13%
Yes	18%	87%
TOTAL N =	403	691

TABLE 2:3

STUDENTS HAVING A CAREER CHOICE BEFORE IN SCHOOL PREPARATION
BY WHETHER THEY HAVE THE SAME CHOICE NOW BY SEX

Same Choice Now	Career Choice Before Preparation			
	Male		Female	
	%	N	%	N
No	17%	57	21%	69
Yes	83%	287	79%	265
Total	100	344	100	334

TABLE 2:4

WHETHER INFORMATION RECEIVED AT THE CONVENTION CENTRE
CAUSED STUDENTS TO RECONSIDER THEIR CAREER CHOICE
BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Reconsider Choice	Location		
	Urban	Rural	North
No	66%	68%	68%
Yes	34%	32%	32%
TOTAL N =	523	455	25

TABLE 2:5

WHETHER STUDENTS RECONSIDERED THEIR CAREER CHOICE
BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR COURSES

Reconsidered Choice	Level			
	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
No	55%	49%	47%	66%
Yes	27%	27%	28%	22%
Did not have one	18%	25%	25%	12%
TOTAL N =	451	185	340	258

TABLE 2:6

STUDENT INTEREST IN CAREER PLANNING BECAUSE OF PREPARATION AND/OR SYMPOSIUM
BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Increased Interest	Location		
	Urban	Rural	North
No	44%	32%	39%
Yes	56%	68%	61%
TOTAL N =	634	570	31

TABLE 2:7

STUDENT INTEREST IN CAREER PLANNING
BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR COURSES

Increased Interest	Level			
	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
No	38%	39%	28%	51%
Yes	62%	61%	72%	49%
TOTAL N =	447	184	338	255

the Grade 11 level were the most likely to reconsider their choices. Students at the Grade 12 level were most likely to have a career choice.

2. Career Planning

Rural students were most likely to perceive the information they received in preparation or at the Convention Centre as increasing their interest in career planning (Table 2:6). Over 55% of the remaining urban and northern students reported similar attitudes. However, it was observed that students at the Grade 12 level were least likely to report an increased planning interest (Table 2:7). In comparison, Grade 11 students most often indicated they were more interested in career planning because of the information they had received. In addition, it was noted that while 60% of males reported an increased planning interest, their female counterparts, (65%) were more likely to do so (Question 18).[2]

While information presented during the Symposium preparation or at the Symposium itself did not result in changes in career choices for over two-thirds of the students, it apparently increased their interest in career planning in the majority of the cases. As such, one can conclude that the Careers Symposium "stimulated student interest in educational planning" and, as such, successfully met its first objective.

(ii) Has the Symposium Assisted Students in Their Understanding of the Process of Career Planning?

1. Possible Career Consideration

Between 43% and 51% of students going to the Symposium stated that they had considered a possible career because of the in-school preparation (Table 2:8). Rural students were most likely to report a career possibility. When analyzed by grade level, the data revealed the students at the Grade 10 and Grade 12 levels were least likely to arrive at career possibilities owing to in-school preparation (Table 2:9).

---

[2]Questions referred to in the text can be found in Appendix C.

TABLE 2:8

WHETHER STUDENTS CONSIDERED A POSSIBLE CAREER FOR THEMSELVES BECAUSE OF IN-SCHOOL PREPARATION BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

	Location		
Considered a Career	Urban	Rural	North
No	57%	49%	55%
Yes	43%	51%	45%
TOTAL N =	555	549	22

TABLE 2:9

WHETHER STUDENTS CONSIDERED A POSSIBLE CAREER FOR THEMSELVES BECAUSE OF PREPARATION BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR COURSES

	Level			
Considered a Career	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
No	50%	61%	50%	58%
Yes	50%	39%	50%	42%
TOTAL N =	423	153	307	229

TABLE 2:10

WHETHER IN-SCHOOL PREPARATION HELPED STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS OF CAREER PLANNING BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

	Location		
Helped Understand Process	Urban	Rural	North
No	16%	9%	9%
Yes	45%	50%	36%
Unsure	39%	41%	55%
TOTAL N =	550	548	22

2. In-School Preparation

Rural students were most likely to perceive the in-school preparation as aiding in their understanding of the career planning process (Table 2:10). Northern students were most likely to be "unsure", while urban students most often stated that the in-school preparation did not aid in their understanding. In addition, students with the majority of their courses at the Grade 11 level, most frequently reported that the in-school preparation had increased their understanding. In contrast, students at the Grade 10 level were least likely to do so (Table 2:11).

It was noted that female students were more likely than males to indicate increased understanding of the planning process (Question 15). However, approximately 45% of the students, regardless of sex, reported increased understanding of the career planning process.

3. Convention Centre Information

Between 42% and 48% of the students perceived the information they received at the Convention Centre as helping in their understanding of the career planning process (Table 2:12). Again rural students were the most likely to indicate that the planning process had been clarified. Northern students most often indicated that they were "unsure" or that the information had not helped in their understanding.

Further analysis revealed that students at the Grade 12 level were the least likely to perceive the information presented at the Convention Centre as helping them (Table 2:13). Once again, it was the students at the Grade 11 level who most often saw the information as aiding in their understanding of the planning process. Students who were "unsure" of helpfulness of the information ranged from 33% to 41%. However, in total, it appeared that 20% of the students indicated the information did not aid in their understanding of the planning process (Question 15).

TABLE 2:11

WHETHER IN-SCHOOL PREPARATION HELPED STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS OF CAREER PLANNING BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR COURSES

Helped Understand Process	Level			
	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
No	13%	15%	9%	15%
Yes	44%	39%	56%	49%
Unsure	44%	46%	36%	36%
TOTAL N =	424	153	301	228

TABLE 2:12

WHETHER INFORMATION RECEIVED AT CONVENTION CENTRE HELPED STUDENTS UNDERSTAND CAREER PLANNING PROCESS BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Helped Understand Process	Location		
	Urban	Rural	North
No	24%	16%	3%
Yes	42%	48%	45%
Unsure	33%	37%	52%
TOTAL N =	644	570	31

TABLE 2:13

WHETHER INFORMATION **PRESENTED** AT THE CONVENTION CENTRE HELPED STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THE CAREER PLANNING PROCESS BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR COURSES

Helped Understand Process	Level			
	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
No	22%	16%	15%	25%
Yes	46%	44%	48%	39%
Unsure	33%	41%	37%	36%
TOTAL N =	453	185	338	257

The majority of students did not appear to consider possible careers because of the in-school preparation. This, in fact, may be a reflection of their degree of understanding of the process of career planning. However, when specifically asked about understanding the process of career planning, 45% of the students indicated that the Symposium process had helped with their career understanding. From this, one can conclude that the Symposium partially met its' second objective of "assisting students in their understanding of the process of career planning." Based on the data, one can also infer that the Symposium most successfully meets this objective with rural students and students at the Grade 11 level.

(iii) Has the Symposium Provided Students with Exposure to Career and Educational Alternatives?

1. Introduction to Possible Careers

It was observed that the majority of urban students and of Grades 9 and 12 students did not perceive the information presented, either during in-school preparation or at the Convention Centre, as introducing them to possible careers of which they were not previously aware (Tables 2:14, 2:15, 2:16, 2:17). In contrast, northern students and students in Grades 10 or 11 most often indicated they were introduced to careers of which they were previously unaware. In addition, females were found to be more likely than males to indicate that the information received at the Convention Centre introduced them to possible new careers (Question 13).

2. Consideration of Possible Careers

Approximately 60% of urban and rural students revealed that they would not consider a possible career because of the information they had received at the Convention Centre (Table 2:18). While Grade 11 students were most likely to consider a possible career, the majority of students, regardless of grade, did not consider a possible

TABLE 2:14

WHETHER THE IN-SCHOOL PREPARATION INTRODUCED STUDENTS TO A POSSIBLE CAREER THEY WERE NOT PREVIOUSLY AWARE OF BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Introduced to Career	Location		
	Urban	Rural	North
No	58%	44%	41%
Yes	43%	56%	59%
TOTAL N =	557	548	22

TABLE 2:15

WHETHER THE IN-SCHOOL PREPARATION INTRODUCED STUDENTS TO A POSSIBLE CAREER THEY WERE NOT AWARE OF PREVIOUSLY BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR COURSES

Introduced to Career	Level			
	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
No	51%	46%	48%	56%
Yes	49%	54%	52%	44%
TOTAL N =	425	153	305	230

TABLE 2:16

WHETHER THE INFORMATION PRESENTED AT THE CONVENTION CENTRE INTRODUCED STUDENTS TO A POSSIBLE CAREER THEY WERE NOT PREVIOUSLY AWARE OF BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Introduced to Career	Location		
	Urban	Rural	North
No	59%	47%	41%
Yes	41%	53%	59%
TOTAL N =	646	567	32

TABLE 2:17

WHETHER THE INFORMATION PRESENTED AT THE CONVENTION CENTRE INTRODUCED STUDENTS TO A POSSIBLE CAREER THEY WERE NOT PREVIOUSLY AWARE OF BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR COURSES

Introduced to Career	Level			
	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
No	55%	48%	48%	58%
Yes	45%	52%	52%	42%
TOTAL N =	451	185	341	256

TABLE 2:18

WHETHER STUDENTS CONSIDERED A POSSIBLE CAREER BECAUSE OF INFORMATION RECEIVED AT THE CONVENTION CENTRE BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Considered a Career	Location		
	Urban	Rural	North
No	62%	59%	45%
Yes	38%	41%	55%
TOTAL N =	639	567	31

TABLE 2:19

WHETHER STUDENTS CONSIDERED A POSSIBLE CAREER BECAUSE OF INFORMATION RECEIVED AT THE CONVENTION CENTRE BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR COURSES

Considered a Career	Level			
	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
No	60%	59%	57%	65%
Yes	40%	41%	44%	35%
TOTAL N =	448	183	340	254

career because of information received at the Convention Centre (Table 2:19).

When asked what was the source of information that caused them to consider new careers, students, regardless of location, most often stated both speakers and booths (Table 2:20). They were least likely to perceive speakers/presenters, alone, as the causal information source. This pattern was also exhibited by the students regardless of their grade level or sex (Table 2:21, Question 14(b). It was also noted that Grade 11 students were most likely to see presenters/speakers as causing them to consider a new career.

The data establishes the fact that *some* students were exposed to educational and career alternatives and as such one can conclude that the Symposium met this objective. However, it appears that the degree of success is open to question given the numbers of students who indicated they had not been introduced to careers of which they were not previously aware. Moreover, the majority of students did not consider possible careers because of information presented at the Convention Centre.

Again, it appears the Symposium was most successful in meeting this objective with non-urban students and those students in Grade 11.

(iv) Has the Symposium Made Specific Education and Career Information Available?

1. Preparation

Overall, approximately 85% of the students surveyed had attended the 1982 Symposium (Question 1). Urban students surveyed most frequently did not attend (Table 2:22). Furthermore, regardless of sex, approximately 85% of the students went through a preparation exercise (Question 5). It was found that rural students were the most likely to have gone through the exercise (Table 2:23). It was noted that, while 72% of the Grade 10 students had a preparatory exercise,

TABLE 2:20

WHAT GAVE STUDENTS INFORMATION THAT CAUSED THE CONSIDERATION OF A NEW CAREER BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Type	Location		
	Urban	Rural	North
Booths	26%	23%	40%
Presenters/Speakers	15%	11%	15%
Both	31%	42%	40%
None	28%	25%	5%
TOTAL N =	396	329	20

TABLE 2:21

WHAT GAVE STUDENTS INFORMATION THAT CAUSED THE CONSIDERATION OF A NEW CAREER BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR COURSES

Type	Level			
	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Booths	25%	19%	26%	28%
Presenters/Speakers	13%	9%	13%	18%
Both	34%	44%	40%	28%
None	28%	28%	20%	26%
TOTAL N =	279	116	202	139

TABLE 2:22

THOSE STUDENTS ATTENDING THE SYMPOSIUM BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

	Location		
Attended	Urban	Rural	North
No	21%	6%	-
Yes	79%	94%	100%
TOTAL N =	833	605	32

TABLE 2:23

WHETHER STUDENTS WENT THROUGH A PREPARATION EXERCISE BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

	Location		
Preparation Exercise	Urban	Rural	North
No	19%	8%	34%
Yes	81%	92%	66%
TOTAL N =	647	561	32

TABLE 2:24

WHETHER STUDENTS WENT THROUGH A PREPARATION EXERCISE BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR COURSES

	Level			
Preparation Exercise	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
No	10%	28%	14%	14%
Yes	90%	72%	86%	86%
TOTAL N =	456	185	334	253

they were the less likely to do so than students at other grade levels (Table 2:24).

2. Information Concerning Specific Areas

Two-thirds of the students indicated they had received information that related to their specific areas of interest (Question 12). Northern students, as well as Grade 11 students, were the respondents most likely to indicate this (Tables 2:25, 2:26).

One might infer that attending the Symposium and going through the preparation exercise presents specific career and education information to students. Also, the majority of students received information related to their specific areas of interest. Given this, one can conclude that the Symposium met its objective of "making specific education and career information available."

(v) General Information

1. Activities at the Convention Centre

Students most often indicated that they had attended the Symposium for "1 to less than 3 hours", followed by "3 to less than 5 hours" (Question 10). It was noted that urban students were most likely to attend for "less than 1 hour" or "1 to less than 3 hours" (Table 2:27). In comparison, non-urban students were more likely to stay longer than urban students, possibly because of transportation arrangements.

Approximately 95% of the students, regardless of sex, indicated that their parents did not attend the Symposium (Question 16).

2. Activities After the Convention Centre

Students most frequently reviewed the information received at the Convention Centre with friends. Parents were indicated second most often (Question 17).

Eighty-seven percent of female students and 82% of male students would recommend the Career Symposium to other students (Question 19). Overall, approximately 80% indicated they would attend the Symposium again if they had a choice (Question 20).

3. Symposium Features

The feature most often mentioned as being the worst feature of the Symposium was "the number of people/too crowded" (Question 22). This was mentioned by 480 students, while the next worst feature, "bad scheduling", was mentioned by 67 students. One can observe, that based on the number of times mentioned, crowding is of chief concern to students. This concern was supported by the students' most frequent suggestion for improvement of the Symposium which was "fewer people/fewer schools at a time" (Question 26).

The feature students most often thought best about the Symposium was the amount of information presented about careers. As well, the booths and speakers/presenters were frequently mentioned (Question 22).

Students appeared to be fairly evenly divided in their feelings regarding what grade level they felt career information would help most (Question 23). However, Grade 10 was seen by a slightly larger percentage as being the grade the information would help most.

Thirty-five percent of females and 29% of males indicated that they thought that September/October was the time best suited for another Career Symposium (Question 24). The second choice time period was January/February.

Overall, 80% of male students and 85% of female students expressed some degree of satisfaction with the Career Symposium (Question 25).

TABLE 2:25

WHETHER INFORMATION RECEIVED AT THE CONVENTION CENTRE APPLIED TO STUDENTS' SPECIFIC AREAS OF INTEREST BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

	Location		
Applied	Urban	Rural	North
No	37%	32%	16%
Yes	63%	68%	84%
TOTAL N =	645	570	32

TABLE 2:26

WHETHER INFORMATION RECEIVED AT THE CONVENTION CENTRE APPLIED TO STUDENTS' SPECIFIC AREAS OF INTEREST BY THE LEVEL OF THE MAJORITY OF THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

	Level			
Applied	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
No	42%	33%	25%	29%
Yes	58%	67%	75%	71%
TOTAL N =	453	185	341	256

TABLE 2:27

LENGTH OF TIME STUDENTS WERE AT CONVENTION CENTRE BY THEIR GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

	Location		
Length	Urban	Rural	North
Less than 1 hour	15%	5%	3%
1 to less than 3 hours	51%	44%	53%
3 to less than 5 hours	29%	45%	44%
5 hours or more	5%	7%	-
TOTAL	647	570	32

4. Summary

It appears that the Symposium met all its student objectives, although some were more successfully met than others. A overriding concern expressed by students was the crowded aspect of the Convention Centre. Furthermore it surfaced that the degree of perceived success varied by the students grade level and geographic location. Specifically, it appeared that Grade 12 students were the least likely to perceive benefits arising out of the Symposium process.

SECTION III

PRESENTERS ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE SYMPOSIUM

A. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this section is:

To observe the attitudes of participating speakers and booth sponsors, regarding various aspects of the Symposium process.

B. OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

Presenters - refers to individuals or organizations who participated in the Symposium by supplying a booth and/or speaker.

C. METHODOLOGY

1. Questionnaire Design

A survey instrument was designed by members of the Research Branch for completion by individuals who had presented a session or provided a booth during the Symposium. Items in the questionnaire reflected the previously stated objective.

2. Sample Selection/Field Methods

The questionnaire was mailed to all those individuals/organizations that had been involved in presenting or exhibiting during the Symposium with the exception of representatives of the Department of Education. Those representing Community College and Universities were included in the sample. This resulted in a sample size of 121. Completed questionnaires were received from 99 respondents resulting in an 82% response rate.

TABLE 3.1

RESPONSE RATE FOR PRESENTER SURVEY

Questionnaires Sent (N)	Returned (N)	Response Rate (%)
121	99	82%

D. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

1. Reasons for Participation

Presenters at the Symposium were asked to list the reason(s) for their participation. The presenters most often indicated that they became involved in order to "provide information about their area to students". The reason least offered for participation was to "avoid multiple presentations at career days" (Table 3:2).

TABLE 3.2

REASONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN SYMPOSIUM

	(N)	Rank
Provide information about the area to students	56	1
Promote the area/stimulate interest	39	2
Requested by Scam	22	3
Importance of career planning	7	4
Responsibility	6	5
Recruit students	5	6
Avoid multiple presentations	4	7

2. Nature of Participation

Presenters were asked about their nature of their involvement (Question 2*). In responding, 51% indicated that their involvement was a booth or display, 32% indicated that their involvement was a speaker, while the remainder (17%) indicated that they provided both a booth and a speaker.

*Questions referred to in the text may be found in Appendix D.

Those involved this year were almost equally split between first time presenters (54%) and those that had been involved in a previous Symposium (46%) (Question 3).

When asked if help was needed, 13% of those responding indicated that some help would have been useful (Question 4). They specified that assistance in setting up and dismantling displays (37%) and assistance in planning (32%) would have been most useful.

3. Information

Ninety-seven percent of the presenters responding to the questionnaire indicated that they had received notification of the Symposium early enough (Question 5).

When asked to comment on the adequacy of the information received 82% indicated that they had received enough information (Question 6). Of the 18% who felt more information was needed, most cited a need to know more about the physical facilities and operation (68%). Approximately a quarter indicated that they could have used some information on planning and student preparation.

4. Satisfaction

Presenters were asked to indicate their satisfaction with a number of aspects of the Symposium. Generally, presenters indicated that they were "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with all aspects of the Symposium (Table 3:3). Of those expressing a degree of dissatisfaction; most were dissatisfied to some degree with the "preparation by students" or "questions from students". Comments made by a number of presenters such as "lack of preparation" and "few questions" supported this dissatisfaction.

It should be noted that between 95% to 97% of the presenters expressed satisfaction with the facilities, the Convention Centre and the number of students involved.

TABLE 3.3

SATISFACTION WITH VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE SYMPOSIUM

	Very Satisfied (%)	Somewhat Satisfied (%)	Somewhat Dissatisfied (%)	Very Dissatisfied (%)
Time of the year	75%	20%	5%	-
Length of time	72%	21%	5%	2%
Convention Centre as location	90%	7%	3%	-
Facilities	78%	19%	3%	-
Publicity	48%	35%	9%	8%
Crowd control	50%	37%	13%	-
Number of students	75%	20%	4%	1%
Questions from students	31%	40%	24%	5%
Interest of students	38%	44%	16%	2%
Preparation by students	17%	51%	24%	8%

5. Future Symposium

The majority of presenters (68%) indicated that a Symposium should be held annually (Question 8). The next largest group of presenters (24%) felt that once every two years was often enough.

Of the respondents, 87% indicated that they would be willing to participate in a future Symposium, with 10% indicating a degree of uncertainty (Question 9). Most often, those indicating a willingness to participate again, indicated that the Symposium provided "an excellent opportunity for students".

6. General Comments

Twenty seven of those responding expressed the comment that the Symposium had been "well organized". Ten respondents indicated some degree of "problems with the facilities".

7. In Summary

In general, presenters reported a high degree of satisfaction. The most common concern was the lack of student preparation and the lack of student questions. Unlike other groups, crowding was not a concern, in fact, 95% of the presenters were satisfied with the number of students participating.

APPENDIX A

MANITOBA SCHOOLS CAREER SYMPOSIUM (PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS)

FREQUENCIES BY URBAN, RURAL, NORTH

1. Why did your school participate in the 1982 Career Symposium?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Career exploration/increase awareness/ information	7	9	2
Curiosity	-	1	-
Invited	1	-	-
Meet people working in field	1	2	1
Fitted in with guidance program	2	-	-

Grade level in schools which participated:

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Grade 9	4	4	-
Grade 10	2	1	-
Grade 11	5	5	1
Grade 12	4	7	2

2. Did the Career Symposium meet your expectations?

	Urban	Rural	North
No	22%	40%	-
Yes	78%	60%	100%
TOTAL N =	9	10	2

If no, why not?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Too many people	1	3	-
These days pre-empted for inservice/ administration days	1	1	-
Hard to talk to all people students interested in	-	2	-
Some speakers did not show up/unavail-able on February 2	1	-	-
People in booths uninformed/not interested	-	1	-

3. (a) In school, were the students taken through an exercise to prepare for the Convention Centre?

	Urban	Rural	North
No	33%	10%	-
Yes	67%	90%	100%
TOTAL N =	9	10	2

If no, why not?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Not all students provided with opportunity/time constraints	2	-	-
No information/scheduling/layout until too late	-	1	-
Not feasible/little likelihood would attend	1	-	-

(b) What type of preparation method was used?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Moving on to a career	7	9	1
Index to Canadian Occupations	3	2	1
Choices	3	1	1
Self directed search	1	-	-
Selected booths and speakers according to post-secondary plans	-	1	-
Careers Canada/Manitoba	2	-	-
Personal interview	-	1	1
School career day	-	1	-

4. Would you use the same preparation method again?

	Urban	Rural	North
No	-	20%	-
Yes	100%	80%	100%
TOTAL N =	8	10	2

If no, why not?

	Number of Times Cited
	Rural
Would prepare for Convention Centre, where to go, times, etc.	1
Could not match interests with conclusions	1

5. How important do you view the in-school preparation exercise as being for preparing the students for the Career Symposium?

	Urban	Rural	North
Not important at all	-	-	-
Not important	-	-	-
Important	56%	40%	-
Very important	44%	60%	100%
TOTAL N =	9	10	2

Why do you feel this way?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Students must have an idea of what to look for	5	5	1
Preparation gives learning attitude	1	-	-
As necessary as symposium	1	-	-
Focus student and compatible area	0	3	1

6. How would you rate the value of the in-school preparation as a means of presenting career information to students?

	Urban	Rural	North
Not valuable at all	-	-	-
Not important	-	11%	-
Important	67%	44%	50%
Very important	33%	44%	50%
TOTAL N =	9	9	2

Why do you feel this way?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Must start to seriously look at future	-	1	-
As important as first-hand information	1	-	-
Better than nothing	1	-	-
Narrows choices to reasonable level	-	2	1
Doesn't provide all information students need	-	-	1

7. Has any type of follow-up been conducted with the students since returning from the Convention Centre?

	Urban	Rural	North
No	11%	50%	100%
Yes	89%	50%	-
TOTAL N =	9	10	2

If no, why not?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Not enough participation in Symposium	2	1	-
No formal system in place	-	-	1
No requests from students	-	1	-
Counsellor sick	-	1	-
No time	-	2	-

If yes, what type?

	Number of Times Cited	
	Urban	Rural
Informal discussion	2	2
Individual consultation	1	-
Formal essay on 2 careers of their choice	1	-
DAT	-	1
Group discussion with career education team	1	-
Discussion on relevance of S.D.S. to Symposium	1	-
Introduction of Choices	-	1
Sharing information	-	1
Evaluation of Symposium	-	3

8. When do you feel the occupational information that was available through the Career Symposium would help students most?

	Urban	Rural	North
Grade 9	33%	22%	-
Grade 10	-	11%	-
Grade 11	33%	11%	100%
Grade 12	33%	33%	-
Other ie. when they are ready/interested	-	22%	-
TOTAL N =	6	9	2

9. How would you rate the value of the Career Symposium as a means of presenting Career information to students?

	Urban	Rural	North
Not valuable at all	-	-	-
Not valuable	-	-	-
Valuable	67%	44%	100%
Very valuable	33%	56%	-
TOTAL N =	9	9	2

Why do you feel this way?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Availability of careers/resource people and information in one place	1	6	1
Should only be one method of school career education program	1	-	-
Students need personal contact with people	2	1	-
Only important if students went to right sessions and talked, asked questions	1	1	-
Get detailed information/not available in school/rural areas	1	2	-

10. How often do you feel the Career Symposium should be held?

	Urban	Rural	North
Never again	-	-	-
Twice a year	-	-	-
Once a year	78%	60%	100%
Every 2 years	22%	30%	-
Every 3 years	-	-	-
Other ie. one urban and one rural	-	10%	-
TOTAL N =	9	10	2

11. Where do you think the Career Symposium should be held?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Winnipeg and surrounding plus one other large centre	11%	-	-
Winnipeg	78%	70%	100%
Winnipeg, Brandon, The Pas	-	10%	-
Winnipeg or Brandon/possibly alternate	-	20%	-
Career Week/Winnipeg two days then move to other centre	11%	-	-
TOTAL N =	9	10	2

12. Overall, how satisfied were you with the quality of information students received from the booths?

	Urban	Rural	North
Very dissatisfied	-	-	-
Dissatisfied	-	11%	50%
Satisfied	63%	57%	50%
Very satisfied	38%	33%	-
TOTAL N =	8	9	2

Why? Positive responses.

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Contained necessary information	1	-	2
Participants well prepared/enthusiastic	1	1	-
Good for some, not for others	1	-	-

Why? Negative responses.

Too crowded/hard to ask questions	-	1	-

13. Overall, how satisfied were you with the quality of information students received from the presenters/speakers?

	Urban	Rural	North
Very dissatisfied	-	10%	-
Dissatisfied	38%	10%	-
Satisfied	38%	80%	50%
Very satisfied	25%	-	50%
TOTAL N =	8	10	2

Reasons for Dissatisfaction.

	Urban	Rural
Narrow view of field/dull	1	-
Quite a few speakers did not attend	-	1

Reasons for Satisfaction.

	Urban	Rural	North
Students were satisfied	-	1	1
Some good/some fair	1	1	-
Speakers most impressive	-	1	-
Booths/displays	1	-	-

14. Does your school have a career day?

	Urban	Rural	North
No	89%	50%	100%
Yes	11%	50%	-
TOTAL N =	9	8	2

If no, did the Career Symposium take its place?

	Urban	Rural	North
No	43%	63%	50%
Yes	57%	38%	50%
TOTAL N =	7	8	2

15. Would you like to see changes made to the next Career Symposium?

	Urban	Rural	North
No	44%	14%	-
Yes	56%	86%	100%
TOTAL N =	9	7	2

Desired Changes.

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Better feature speakers	1	-	-
More booths	-	-	1
Limit the number of students at any one time/more space	2	3	1
Split between Winnipeg and Brandon	-	1	-
Avoid having it during mid-term break	1	-	-
More speakers	-	1	-
Hold in Brandon for rural students	-	1	-
More presentations at booth sites	-	1	-
More occupations covered	-	1	-
Popular exhibits on corner so less crowding	1	-	-

16. Would you send students from your school to the Career Symposium again?

	Urban	Rural	North
No	-	20%	-
Yes	100%	80%	100%
TOTAL N =	9	10	2

Why do you feel this way? Negative Reasons.

	Number of Times Cited
	Rural
Not if held in Winnipeg again	1
Not if same conditions and overcrowding	1

17. Would you recommend the Career Symposium to your colleagues?

	Urban	Rural	North
No	-	10%	-
Yes	100%	90%	100%
TOTAL N =	9	10	2

If no, why not?

	Rural
Needs more central area for western area	1
If more speaker presentations available	1

18. What do you feel was the worst feature of the Career Symposium?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Crowds/lack of space	4	7	1
Not enough to keep students busy	-	1	-
Lack of supervision provided by some schools	1	-	-
Speakers	1	-	-
Busing situation for pickups/parking	2	2	-
Lack of direction upon arrival	1	2	-
More demonstrations ie. computer display	-	1	-
Held over longer period	1	-	-
Booths too crowded together	-	1	-

19. What do you feel was the best feature of the Career Symposium?

	Number of Times Cited		
	Urban	Rural	North
Speaker presentations	-	1	-
Variety of occupations with personnel,	6	6	1
Advance information	1	1	-
Booths and speakers	-	1	1
Variety of careers presented	-	1	-

20. When do you feel the Career Symposium should be held again?

	Urban	Rural	North
Never	-	-	-
Sept./Oct. 1982	11%	10%	50%
Nov./Dec. 1982	33%	10%	-
Jan./Feb. 1983	44%	50%	-
March/April 1983	11%	-	-
May/June 1983	-	10%	50%
Other: Feb. 1984	-	20%	-
TOTAL N =	9	10	2

21. Other comments/suggestions.

	Number of Times Cited	
	Urban	Rural
Students gained good information	1	-
Excellent resource people at booths	-	1
Better than expected	1	-
More relevant preparation material needed	-	1
Travel problem for rural divisions in winter	-	1
Good experience for students	1	-

APPENDIX B

MANITOBA SCHOOLS CAREERS SYMPOSIUM

SURVEY OF NONPARTICIPATING SCHOOLS: RESPONSES

1. Did you receive notification of the Manitoba Schools Careers Symposium?

	Urban	Rural
Yes	100%	100%
No	-	-
Number of Respondents	16	20

2. Why did you choose not to participate in the Manitoba Schools Careers Symposium in 1982?

	Number of Respondents	
	Urban	Rural
Run own program	6	3
Conflict with school schedule	8	8
Inservice	1	-
Timing	3	1
Not proper level for Grade 9's	-	1
Transportation/expense/distance	-	13
Needed more time to plan/timing	1	1
Time away from classes	1	1
Lack of interest	-	2

3. Have you participated in a previous Manitoba Schools Careers Symposium?

	Urban	Rural
Yes	20%	26%
No	80%	74%
Number of Respondents	15	19

Were you satisfied?

	Urban	Rural
Yes	25%	100%
No	75%	-
Number of Respondents	4	4

Why not?

	Number of Respondents	
	Urban	Rural
Materials not received	4	-
Left decision to individual students	-	1
Distance/expense/transportation	-	4
Did not think program valuable	1	-

4. Do you have programs/activities in your school that are intended to assist students in planning their careers?

	Urban	Rural
Yes	100%	100%
No	-	-
Number of Respondents	16	18

Please indicate those activities.

	Number of Respondents	
	Urban	Rural
Career days/speakers	7	12
Course on careers - guidance classes	7	6
Choices	8	2
Individual counselling	1	7
Career information centre	4	8

5. Would you participate in a future Manitoba Schools Careers Symposium?

	Urban	Rural
Yes	87%	63%
No	7%	11%
Don't know	7%	26%
Number of Respondents	15	19

6. Would you be more likely to participate in a future Manitoba Schools Careers Symposium if the event were changed?

	Urban	Rural
Yes	80%	77%
No	20%	23%
Number of Respondents	10	13

Please indicate the changes you want.

	Number of Respondents	
	Urban	Rural
More locations	-	9
Different time of year	7	-
Geared to junior high	-	1
More student preparation	1	-

7. In what town or city do you think the Careers Symposium should be held?

	Number of Respondents	
	Urban	Rural
Winnipeg	15	6
Brandon	1	10
North	-	2
Selkirk/Beausejour	1	-
Dauphin	-	1

8. Are there any comments/suggestions that you would like to make?

	Number of Respondents	
	Urban	Rural
Financial aid for northern students to attend	-	1
Good supplement to an in-school program	-	1
More information	1	1
Have smaller event and more of them	-	2
Encourage alternate year attendance	-	1
Encourage alternate programs	-	1
Problems of crowd control	1	-
Leave open evenings for those interested	1	-
Gear to junior high	1	-

APPENDIX C

MANITOBA SCHOOLS CAREER SYMPOSIUM

STUDENTS' FREQUENCIES BY SEX

1. Did you attend the 1982 Careers Symposium at the Convention Centre?

	Male	Female
No	15%	14%
Yes	85%	86%
TOTAL N =	712	734

2. The majority of your courses are at the:

	Male *	Female
Grade 9 level	41%	32%
Grade 10 level	14%	16%
Grade 11 level	24%	32%
Grade 12 level	21%	21%
TOTAL N =	599	624

3. The majority of your courses are:

	Male	Female
High school program (ie. 00)	69%	68%
High school program (ie. 01)	25%	22%
Business education (ie. 02)	2%	8%
Industrial vocational (ie. 03)	3%	1%
Occupational entrance (ie. 04)	1%	2%
TOTAL N =	534	580

4. Do you presently have a career choice?

	Male	Female
No	37%	37%
Yes	63%	63%
TOTAL N =	593	608

5. (a) Did someone at your school have you go through a preparation exercise to prepare you for the Careers Symposium?

	Male	Female
No	13%	16%
Yes	88%	84%
TOTAL N =	599	621

*The rest of the frequencies presented are only for those who attended the Symposium.

(b) What type of preparation method was used to prepare you?

	Number of Times Cited	
	Male	Female
Moving on to a career	381	372
Index to Canadian Occupations	137	128
Choices	97	101
DAT Test	8	7
Career booklets	1	2
Lecture	1	-
High school course	18	24

6. (a) Did you have a career choice before the preparation you received in school?

	Male	Female
No	37%	40%
Yes	63%	60%
TOTAL N =	552	560

(b) Do you have the same career choice now?

	Male	Female
No	29%	30%
Yes	71%	70%
TOTAL N =	429	390

7. Did the preparation you received in school introduce you to a possible career you were not aware of before?

	Male	Female
No	52%	49%
Yes	48%	51%
TOTAL N =	551	559

8. Did you consider a possible career for yourself because of the preparation you received in school before going to the Convention Centre?

	Male	Female
No	54%	53%
Yes	46%	47%
TOTAL N =	551	559

9. Did the preparation you received in school help you understand the process of career planning?

	Male	Female
No	14%	11%
Yes	44%	51%
Unsure	42%	38%
TOTAL N =	547	556

10. How long were you at the Career Symposium?

	Male	Female
Less than 1 hour	12%	7%
1 to less than 3 hours	48%	47%
3 to less than 5 hours	33%	41%
5 hours or more	7%	5%
TOTAL N =	605	624

11. Did the information you received at the Convention Centre cause you to reconsider your career choice?

	Male	Female
No	56%	53%
Yes	26%	26%
I did not have a career choice	18%	21%
TOTAL N =	603	624

12. Did you receive information at the Convention Centre that applied to the specific career areas in which you were interested?

	Male	Female
No	34%	33%
Yes	66%	67%
TOTAL N =	603	627

13. Did the information you received at the Convention Centre introduce you to a possible career you were not aware of before?

	Male	Female
No	56%	49%
Yes	44%	51%
TOTAL N =	601	627

14. (a) Did you consider a possible career for yourself because of the career information you received at the Convention Centre?

	Male	Female
No	61%	59%
Yes	40%	41%
TOTAL N =	600	622

(b) Which of the following gave you information that caused you to consider a new career for yourself?

	Male	Female
The booths	26%	25%
The presenters/speakers	13%	13%
Both	33%	39%
None of the above	28%	23%
TOTAL N =	362	376

15. Did the information you received at the Convention Centre help you understand the process of career planning?

	Male	Female
No	22%	17%
Yes	44%	46%
Unsure	33%	38%
TOTAL N =	602	626

16. Did one of your parents/guardians go to the 1982 Careers Symposium at the Convention Centre?

	Male	Female
No	95%	96%
Yes	5%	4%
TOTAL N =	605	626

17. With whom have you received the career information you received at the Symposium?

	Number of Times Cited	
	Male	Female
Nobody	174	146
Teacher	100	118
Counsellor	107	123
Parent	199	242
Friend	204	300
Other relatives (ie. uncle, cousin)	2	5
Principal	2	1
Employer	2	-
Brother/sister	2	4

18. Are you now more interested in planning your career because of information provided to you during preparation or at the Convention Centre?

	Male	Female
No	40%	36%
Yes	60%	65%
TOTAL N =	600	619

19. Would you recommend the Careers Symposium to other students?

	Male	Female
No	18%	13%
Yes	82%	87%
TOTAL N =	597	621

20. Would you go to a Careers Symposium again if you had a choice?

	Male	Female
No	21%	18%
Yes	79%	82%
TOTAL N =	600	624

21. What do you feel was the worst feature of the 1982 Careers Symposium?

	Number of Times Cited	
	Male	Female
The number of people/too crowded	221	262
Pamphlets	1	2
Lack of information/presented too narrow view of field	29	36
Hard to find booths/sessions	13	29
Lectures	3	3
Too rushed/too short	9	24
Not enough speakers/booths	25	32
Facility related - no chairs - too much noise in rooms	15	6
Bad scheduling ie. too long between sessions not organized enough	30	37
No chance to ask questions	3	3
Too boring/not stimulating	19	18
Other	9	8

22. What do you feel was the best feature of the 1982 Careers Symposium?

	Number of Times Cited	
	Male	Female
Helped us learn about our goals	22	38
Lots of booths/pamphlets	44	49
Some booths were very clear/well prepared	8	10
Getting out of school	14	11
Lots of information ie. facts about many careers presented	83	128
All features good	14	15
Booth locations	2	2
Meeting people who worked at jobs	5	2
Booths, presenters/speakers	37	62
Speaker/presenter/lectures	32	51
Information booklets	8	14
Well organized	2	5
Other - some booths spoke French	6	12
- listened to what wanted		
- badges /buttons		
- equipment		
- where it was held		

23. At what grade level do you feel the career information available through the Careers Symposium would help most?

	Male	Female
Grade 9	25%	25%
Grade 10	27%	29%
Grade 11	24%	25%
Grade 12	25%	21%
TOTAL N =	576	597

24. When do you feel another Careers Symposium should be held?

	Male	Female
Never	8%	5%
Sept./Oct. 1982	29%	35%
Nov./Dec. 1982	11%	9%
Jan./Feb. 1983	21%	23%
March/April 1983	13%	13%
May/June 1983	16%	13%
Other - ie. July/August	2%	2%
Every year		
Every 2 years		
Nov./Dec. 1983		
May/June 1982		
Sept./Oct. 1983		
Anytime		
TOTAL N =	580	607

25. Overall, how satisfied are you with your 1982 Careers Symposium experience?

	Male	Female
Very dissatisfied	8%	6%
Dissatisfied	12%	10%
Satisfied	67%	70%
Very satisfied	13%	15%
TOTAL N =	599	618

26. Please list any suggestions you might have for improving the next Careers Symposium.

	Number of Times Cited	
	Male	Female
Longer time/longer than couple days	50	64
More booths/speakers/careers	41	52
Pamphlet related - more		
- more information	11	16
Less people/fewer schools at a time	81	117
Name of subject on door	2	3
Transportation related/time to rest from long trip	3	1
More specific lectures	17	32
Pamphlets/maps showing where booths are	10	15
More organized/better scheduling	28	49
Some booths need more information		
ie. broadcasting		
ie. post-secondary college/university	11	19

	Number of Times Cited	
	Male	Female
Have on school level ie. more personel	13	12
Start later in morning	5	7
More work conditions information	4	1
More speakers, less booths	2	1
Other - more for Grade 9	6	5
- more illustrations		
- more career computers		
- shorter time periods		
- more teachers to prevent loitering		

APPENDIX D

MANITOBA SCHOOLS CAREERS SYMPOSIUM

SURVEY OF PRESENTORS: RESPONSES

1. What were your reason(s) for participating in the Manitoba Schools Careers Symposium?

	Number of Respondents
Request by Scan/Slota	22
Promote their field/stimulate interest	34
Information for students about their area	56
Avoid multiple presentations	4
Responsibility	6
Recruit students	5
Importance of career planning	7

2. In what manner did you participate?

Booth	51%
Speaker	32%
Both booth and speaker	17%
Number of Respondents	99

3. Did you participate for the first time this year?

Yes	54%
No	46%
Number of Respondents	99

4. Could you have used help?

Yes	13%
No	87%
Number of Respondents	90

If yes, what kind of help?

Assistance from my association	6%
Planning	32%
Information on physical facilities	25%
Assistance in setting up/breaking down	37%
Number of Respondents	16

5. Do you feel that you were notified of the Symposium early enough?

Yes	97%
No	3%
Number of Respondents	99

If no, how much notice would have been best?

4 weeks	33%
8 weeks	33%
12 weeks	33%
Number of Respondents	3

6. Do you feel that you were provided with enough information prior to the symposium?

Yes	82%
No	18%
Number of Respondents	97

If no, what additional information would have been useful?

Physical facilities and operation	68%
Numbers to expect	5%
Planning/student operations	23%
Other participants	5%
Number of Respondents	22

7. Please indicate your satisfaction with each of the following components of the symposium.

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Time of the year (N= 97)	75%	20%	5%	-
Length of time (2 days) (N= 95)	73%	21%	5%	2%
Convention Centre as location (N= 95)	90%	7%	3%	-
Facilities (N= 98)	78%	19%	3%	-
Publicity (N= 89)	48%	35%	9%	8%
Crowd control (N= 96)	50%	37%	13%	-
Number of students (N= 96)	75%	20%	4%	1%
Questions from students (N= 97)	31%	40%	24%	5%
Interest of students (N= 98)	38%	44%	16%	2%
Preparation by students (N= 88)	17%	51%	24%	8%

For each of the above components, please list the letter of the component along with any relevant comments you may have.

			Number of Respondents
a)	Time of year	- alternate time of year	8
b)	Length of time (2 days)	- too long	6
		- too crowded/congested	2
		- not enough notice to students	1
		- too short	1
c)	Convention Centre as the location	- too crowded/congested	3
d)	Facilities	- too crowded/congested	6
		- not enough notice to students	1
		- too short	1
d)	Publicity	- too long	1
		- not enough notice to students	15
		- host dinner for participants	1
		- program data wing	1
f)	Crowd control	- too crowded/congested	9
		- students let in early	3
		- noise	1
g)	Number of Students	- too crowded/congested	3
		- not enough notice to students	1
h)	Questions from Students	- few questions asked	11
		- lack of preparation	10
		- lack of interest	4
		- lack of knowledge of English	2
i)	Interest of Students	- few questions asked	2
		- lack of preparation	7
		- lack of interest	9
j)	Preparation by Students	- lack of preparation	14

8. How often do you think the Manitoba Schools Careers Symposium should be held?

Twice a year	7%
Once a year	68%
Every two years	24%
Every three years	-
Other	1%
Number of Respondents	99

Please specify:

9. Given your experience this year, would you participate again?

Yes	87%
No	3%
Unsure	10%
Number of Respondents	95

Please explain:

Others may be more appropriate	5%
Excellent opportunity for students	65%
Lack of interest	3%
Enjoyable	11%
Better than multiple career days	5%
Met objectives	5%
Depends on availability of time	3%
Depends on need for personnel	3%
Number of Respondents	37

10. Other comments/concerns:

	Number of Respondents
Well organized	27
Beneficial to students/parents	7
Students well prepared	2
Improvement over many career days	3
Problems with facilities	10
Better student preparation	6
Students not serious ie., day off	4
All high schools should participate	2